

# ARMY AND NAVY CHRONICLE.

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## CONGRESSIONAL DOCUMENT.

### OREGON TERRITORY.

#### REPORT

*Of the Select Committee, appointed on the 29th of December last, with instructions to inquire into the expediency of occupying the mouth of the Columbia river.*

APRIL 15, 1824—Read: ordered that it lie upon the table.

The committee, to which was referred the resolution of the 29th day of December last, instructing them to inquire into the expediency of occupying the mouth of the Oregon, or Columbia river, have had the same under consideration and ask leave further to report:

That they have considered the subject referred to them, and are persuaded that, both in a military and commercial point of view, the occupation of that territory is of great importance to the Republic; but, as much has been submitted to the House on these points, by former committees, they have now deemed it necessary, only to present a view of the difficulties which would probably present themselves in accomplishing that object, and the manner in which they can be overcome.

To obtain information, a letter to this end was addressed to an officer of the army, whose integrity in the public service is well known to the House, and whose military knowledge is entitled to the highest respect; that officer, Brigadier General Thomas S. Jesup, answered so satisfactorily to the committee, that they have presented the answer, in its entire form, to the House, and adopt it as a part of this report.

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
Washington, April 16, 1824.

SIR: In reply to your letter, dated the 30th ult., requesting me to communicate "any facts, views, or opinions, which may have presented themselves to me, relative to the probable difficulty of making an establishment at the mouth of Columbia river, and the military advantages of that establishment," I have the honor to remark, that ever since my attention was first directed to the subject, I have considered the possession and military command of the Columbia necessary not only to the protection of the fur trade, but to the security of our western frontier. That flank of our country, extending from the lakes to the Gulf of Mexico, is every where in contact with numerous, powerful, and warlike Indian nations; who, altogether, might be able to bring into the field from twenty to thirty thousand warriors. Most of those nations communicate, either with the British to the north and west, or the Spaniards to the south. In the event of war, that force, with a few hundred foreign troops, or under the influence of foreign companies, might be made more formidable to us than any force which Europe combined could oppose to us. On the other hand, if such measures be adopted as to secure a proper influence over them, and, in the event of war, to command their co-operation, they, with the aid of a few small garrisons, would not only afford ample protection for that entire line, but would become the scourge of our enemies.

The dangers to be apprehended, can only be averted by proper military establishments; and whether the post at the mouth of Columbia be intended to secure our territory, protect our traders, or to cut off all communication between the Indians

and foreigners, I should consider a line of posts, extending from the Council Bluffs entirely across the continent, necessary. Those posts should be situated, as well with a view to command the avenues through which the Indians pass from north to south, as to keep open the communication with the establishment at the mouth of the Columbia.

A post should be established at the Mandan villages, because there the Missouri approaches within a short distance of the British territory, and it would have the effect of holding in check the Hudson's Bay and North West Companies, and of controlling the Rickarees, Mandans, Minnatarees, Assiniboinis, and other Indians, who either reside or range on the territory east, north, and west of that point.

A post at, or near, the head of navigation on the Missouri, would control the Blackfoot Indians, protect our traders, enable us to remove those of the British companies from our territory, and serve as a depot, at which detachments moving towards the Columbia might either be supplied, or leave such stores as they should find it difficult to carry with them through the mountains. It might also be made a depot of trade, and of the Indian Department.

To keep open the communication through the mountains, there should at least be one small post at some convenient point between the Missouri and the Columbia, and on the latter river and its tributaries, there should be at least three posts. They would afford present protection to our traders, and, on the expiration of the privilege granted to British subjects to trade on the waters of the Columbia, would enable us to remove them from our territory, and to secure the whole trade to our own citizens. They would also enable us to preserve peace among the Indians, and, in the event of foreign war, to command their neutrality or their assistance, as we might think most advisable. The posts designated might be established and maintained at an additional annual expense not exceeding forty thousand dollars.

By extending to those posts the system of cultivation, now in operation at the Council Bluffs, the expense of supplying them would, in a few years, be greatly diminished. Mills might be erected at all the posts at a trifling expense, and the whole country abounding in grass, all the domestic animals necessary, either for labor or subsistence, might be supported. This would render the establishment more secure, and, consequently, more formidable to the Indian nations in their vicinity.

As to the proposed posts on the Columbia, it is believed they might be supplied immediately at a low rate. Wheat may be obtained at New California at about twenty-five cents per bushel, and beef cattle at three or four dollars each. Salt, in any quantity required, may be had at an island near the peninsula of California. Should transportation not be readily obtained for those articles, vessels might be constructed by the troops.

To obtain the desired advantages, it is important, not only that we occupy the posts designated, but that we commence our operations without delay. The British companies are wealthy and powerful; their establishments extend from Hudson's Bay and Lake Superior to the Pacific; many of them within our territory. It is not to be supposed they would surrender those advantages without a struggle, and, though they should not engage in hostilities themselves, they might render all the Indians, in that extensive region, hostile.

The detachment intended to occupy the mouth of Columbia, might leave the Council Bluffs in June, and one hundred and fifty men proceed with the

boats and stores; and, as the country is open, and abounds with grass, the remaining fifty might proceed by land, with the horses intended for the transportation across the mountains, and might drive three or four hundred beeves to the Mandan villages, or to the falls of Missouri; at one of those places the parties should unite and spend the winter. The latter would be preferable, because there they might be able to establish a friendly intercourse with the Blackfoot Indians; or, at all events, by impressing them with an idea of the power of the nation, restrain their depredations upon the neighboring tribes, and deter them from acts of outrage upon our traders. They might, also, during the winter, reconnoitre the several passes through the mountains, prepare provisions necessary to support them on the march, and down the Columbia; and, if authorized to do so, remove from our territories all British traders on the waters of the Missouri. They would necessarily remain at, or in the vicinity of, their wintering ground until June, but might be occupied during the months of April and May, in opening a road to the mountains, and constructing bridges over the numerous streams on the route. This work performed, they might, in about twenty days, reach the navigable waters of Clark's river, a branch of the Columbia, and, in ten days more, prepare transportation to descend to their destination, where, after every necessary allowance for accidents and delays, they would certainly arrive by the month of August.

The vessels employed to transport the stores by sea, might leave the United States in the month of November, and would arrive at the mouth of the Columbia in April, at least four months before the detachment from the Council Bluffs could reach that point; and, unless the ships should be detained during that time, which could not be expected, the stores would be exposed to damage and depredation, and perhaps, by the time the troops should arrive, would be entirely destroyed. It would, therefore, seem to me a measure of prudence, that at least one company of artillery be transported with the stores. That description of force would be found necessary at the post, and the ships would afford them ample accommodation.

That the route from the Council Bluffs to the mouth of Columbia is practicable, has been proved by the enterprise of more than one of our citizens. It no doubt presents difficulties; but difficulties are not impossibilities. We have only to refer to the pages of our history to learn that many operations, infinitely more arduous, have been accomplished by Americans. The march of Arnold to Quebec, or of General Clark to Vincennes, during the Revolutionary war, exceeded greatly in fatigue, privation, difficulty, and danger, the proposed operations: and I believe I may say, without fear of contradiction, that the detachment might be supplied, during the whole route, with less difficulty than in the war of 1756 was experienced in supplying the forces operating under Gen. Washington, and Gen. Braddock, against the French and Indians, on the Ohio.

A post at the mouth of Columbia is important, not only in relation to the interior trade, and the military defence of the western section of the Union, but, also, in relation to the naval power of the nation. Naval power consists, not in ships, but in seamen, and, to be efficient, the force must always be available. The northwest coast of America is an admirable nursery for seamen; many of our best sailors are formed there; without a naval station, however, on the Pacific, the force employed in the whale fishery, as well as in sealing, and the northwest trade, would, in the event of a war with a great maritime power, be, in some measure, lost to the nation. But that establishment made, would afford a secure retreat to all our ships and seamen in that section of the globe, and the force, thus concentrated, might be used with effect against the trade, if not the fleets, or posses-

sions of the enemy, in place of being driven to the Atlantic, or perhaps captured on their way.

The establishment might be considered as a great bastion, commanding the whole line of coast to the north and south; and it would have the same influence on that line which the bastions of a work have on its curtains, for the principles of defence are the same, whether applied to a small fortress, or a line of frontier, or even an entire section of the globe. In the one case, the missiles used are bullets and cannon shot; in the other, ships and fleets.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully,  
your obedient servant, TH. S. JESUP.

To the Hon. JOHN FLOYD,

House of Representatives.

## LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES.

### LAW FOR THE DEFENCE OF THE UNITED STATES.

An act giving to the President of the United States additional powers for the defence of the United States, in certain cases, against invasion, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby authorized to resist any attempt on the part of Great Britain to enforce, by arms, her claim to exclusive jurisdiction over that part of the State of Maine which is in dispute between the United States and Great Britain; and, for that purpose, to employ the naval and military forces of the United States and such portions of the militia as he may deem it advisable to call into service.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That the militia when called into the service of the United States by virtue of this act, or of the act entitled "An act to provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections, repel invasions, and to repeal the act now in force for those purposes," may, if in the opinion of the President of the United States the public interest require it, be compelled to serve for a term not exceeding six months after their arrival at their place of rendezvous, in any one year, unless sooner discharged.

Sec. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That in the event of actual invasion of the territory of the United States by any foreign power, or of imminent danger of such invasion discovered, in his opinion, to exist before Congress can be convened to act upon the subject, the President be, and he is hereby, authorized, if he deem the same expedient, to accept the services of any number of volunteers not exceeding fifty thousand, in the manner provided for in the act entitled "An act authorizing the President of the United States to accept the services of volunteers, and to raise an additional regiment of dragoons or mounted rifle-men," approved May 23, 1836.

Sec. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That in the event of either of the contingencies provided for in this act, the President of the United States shall be authorized to complete the public armed vessels now authorized by law, and to equip, man, and employ, in actual service, all the naval force of the United States; and to build, purchase, or charter, arm, equip, and man such vessels and steamboats on the northern lakes and rivers whose waters communicate with the United States and Great Britain, as he shall deem necessary to protect the United States from invasion from that quarter.

Sec. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That the sum of ten millions of dollars is hereby appropriated and placed at his disposal for the purpose of executing the provisions of this act: to provide for which the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to borrow money on the credit of the United States, and to cause to be issued certificates of stock, signed by the Register of the Treasury, for the sum to be borrowed, or any part thereof; and the same to be sold on the best terms that may be offered after public notice for proposals for the same: *Provided,* That no engagement or contract shall be entered into which shall preclude the United States from reimbursing any sum or sums thus borrowed after the expiration of five years from the first of January next; and that the rate of interest shall not exceed five per cent. payable semi-annually.



SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That the sum of eighteen thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for outfit and salary of a special minister to Great Britain: *Provided*, The President of the United States shall deem it expedient to appoint the same.

SEC. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That in the event of either of the contingencies provided for in the first and third sections of this act, the President of the United States shall be authorized to apply a part not exceeding \$1,000,000 of the appropriation made in this act to repairing or arming fortifications along the seaboard and frontier.

SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted*, That whenever militia or volunteers are called into the service of the United States, they shall have the organization of the army of the United States, and shall receive the same pay and allowances.

SEC. 9. *And be it further enacted*, That the several provisions of this act shall be in force until the end of sixty days after the meeting of the first session of the next Congress, and no longer.

APPROVED, March 3, 1839.

AN ACT to provide for the location and temporary support of the Seminole Indians removed from Florida.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the President of the United States be, and hereby is, authorized to provide a suitable location, west of the States of Missouri or Arkansas, for the Seminole Indians who have been or may be removed from Florida, and to provide for their support until they shall be removed to such location; and that for these purposes, the sum of ten thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated to be paid out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

APPROVED, February 13, 1839.

A RESOLUTION for the purchase of the island at the confluence of the St. Peters and Mississippi rivers.

*Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, authorized to contract with J. B. and J. Ferribault, for the purchase of the island at the confluence of the St. Peters and Mississippi rivers, and to report his proceedings to Congress, subject to their approbation or rejection.

APPROVED, February 13, 1839.

## MISCELLANY.

### *Correspondence of the Boston Transcript.*

UNITED STATES SHIP CYANE,  
Messina, Nov. 20, 1838.

Since our arrival in the Mediterranean, Captain Percival has suffered beyond measure from gout and rheumatism, and we see no prospect of speedy relief. For months together he has been cooped up on the sofa; his right hand is so bad that he cannot sign his name. \* \* \* I regret to find that our ships, on leaving these ports lately, have neglected to pay many bills (not government bills) that it would have been more to their credit to discharge. This abominable practice of ships leaving foreign ports, where they have been received with courtesy and kindness, deeply in debt, does but little to our credit and less for our honor, and says nothing for our justice. Capt. P. is deeply mortified by the reports we have heard, and is determined that this ship shall escape such imputations. The sin is not confined to any particular class in the ship, but includes, if reports be true, some of all from the tarpaulin to the epaulette.

\* \* \* We arrived at Naples on the 22d October. On the 21st, Her Majesty's ship Hastings, bearing the royal standard of England, arrived hav-

ing on board the Dowager Queen Adelaide and a suite of 60 persons, principally of the nobility. It afforded a good opportunity to Capt. P. to exhibit his gallantry, and display an evidence of courtesy to one of England's Queens, so much entitled to personal respect from every one. On her landing in the evening, we manned the yards in handsome style, gave her a salute of twenty one guns and *three cheers*. On the next day the British minister called on our minister to express her Majesty's gratification at the courtesy so handsomely shown her, when she had no claim to expect it, except, as the minister said, "from the great gallantry displayed by American officers generally."

On the same day, Capt. Locke, commander of the Hastings, came on board the Cyane to present the Queen's personal thanks to Capt. P. On the 6th November, Lord Howe, Her Majesty's chamberlain, came on board, with Capt. Locke to introduce him, to invite Capt. P. to breakfast with Her Majesty and the Royal Family of Naples, on board the Hastings, on the Monday following, which invitation he accepted; and on being presented to Her Majesty, by the Lord Chamberlain, she expressed in very flattering terms the deep sense she felt of the courtesy he had shown her, and he replied in a very handsome manner, that it had afforded him great pleasure to have an opportunity to offer to one whose whole life had been eminently distinguished for acts of justice and benevolence, accompanied by their sister-virtue, mercy, the slightest mark of respect.

Her Majesty appears to be about 42 years of age, in rather delicate health. She possesses great urbanity and mildness of manners, and seems to make every one happy around her. The company consisted of about sixty persons, who sat down to breakfast at 2 P. M. At 4, the guests rose from the table, and quadrilles and waltzing commenced, in which, as Capt. P. could not participate, he returned on board soon after five, highly delighted with the "fine old English gentleman" style in which he was received and entertained.

If ——— has written you, he has probably told you what has become of the portrait of Osceola, which, left your sanctum, between two days, when the ship was lying in Massachusetts Bay. Capt. P. presented it, through Lord Howe, to Queen Adelaide, and received in return the following note, a copy of which I got from the captain's scribe, thinking that it might gratify you to know the finale of that grave affair.

"H. M. SHIP HASTINGS, Nov. 23.

"My Dear Sir—It is with much pleasure that I obey the command of Queen Adelaide, by expressing the grateful thanks of her Majesty for this proof of attention on your part. Her Majesty receives the portrait of the poor Indian chief, and will preserve it, not only for its merit and curiosity, but as a memorial of an accidental meeting between the ships of the nations, which her Majesty devoutly prays may ever continue, as they are, sisters, only rivals in mutual good offices and the arts of peace. I beg you to accept the assurances of the regard and respect with which I have the honor to remain,

"Your very obedient servant,

"HOWE

"To Capt. PERCIVAL,

"Command't of U. S. corvette Cyane."

From the Boston Centinel.

Extract from a letter received in this city from an officer of the U. S. ship North Carolina, dated

CALLAO, 5th Dec., 1838.

"We have received a paper called the 'Boston Times,' in which there is an article headed 'Discontent in the Navy,' the writer of which is of opinion that the fault lies partly with the Secretary of the Navy, partly with officers who have been too strict disciplinarians, and partly with the disaffected persons themselves. 'We have now before us,' he

says, 'a letter from a young officer on board the United States ship North Carolina, dated at Valparaiso, 26th January, 1838, which describes the state of things on board that ship in the worst possible light. If his account be correct, this ship is little else than a floating prison. When she left Hampton Roads, the officers and crew mustered 860 strong, but at the date of the letter 300 were all that remained, and these, the writer says, were the most worthless set of men that ever promenaded a ship's deck.' The writer then takes up each officer, &c., &c., from all which, after making due allowances for the real or imaginary wrongs which the writer may have suffered, &c., 'we are under the impression that the management on board that ship is any thing but what it ought to be.'

"There can be no doubt that there is great discontent among the officers of the navy, and its cause, I think may be traced to the officers having too much pay when off duty; to the late Secretary not having sufficient energy to enforce his orders, and to a want of strict discipline, rather than to too much of it in the service; to which may be added the slowness of promotion. Had the plan recommended by the naval committee of the House of Representatives during the long session of 1836, been adopted, by which promotion would have been rendered more rapid and more certain, there would be much less discontent; and if officers ordered to vessels were not let off on the most frivolous pretences, and if the consequence of being let off were half pay until they were called for again, there would be no difficulty. We must come to this, or the service will go to the d—l, from post-captains to midshipmen.

"With regard to the letter from the young officer, (who, by the way, I suspect is no officer, but a landsman on board this ship, who is a great scamp,) I think the writer in the Boston Times would have shown more sense and judgment by keeping silence on the subject, for there is falsehood on the very face of it. Every one who has been on board a man-of-war, or who is acquainted with the character of sailors, must know, that strict discipline is absolutely necessary; and where there is strict discipline either in a garrison or on board a ship, they may in some sort be compared to prisons.

"When we sailed from Hampton roads, we had on board 878 officers and men. Since this crew came on board in October, 1836, we have lost by death one officer and eighteen men, and twenty-one men have deserted. Our sick list is now twenty-eight, and I should think had averaged about that number, and we now number officers and men 837. As long as I have been in the service, with the exception of the crew of the ———, during the war, I have never seen a more orderly, better disciplined, or more contented and happy set of men. Nearly one half of them stop their grog voluntarily, and they are as kindly treated as such men can be. With regard to our officers, we have less than half our complement, and most of them are very young. We have now been from home two years, and those who have wives and sweethearts are getting home sick, but I hear of no more discontent than is usual on board a man of war. It is a forced and unnatural state of society, and where men are shut up so long together, they are apt to become like rats in a cage or trap.

"Commodore Ballard and Captain Selfridge are both gentlemanly and correct officers, and good disciplinarians, but not any too strict, and, as I think, gross injustice has been done to them. I will thank you to do what is necessary to counteract the very erroneous impression that would be produced, if the letter of the young officer and the comments of the Boston Times were to remain uncontradicted."

*Correspondence of the Arkansas Gazette.*

FORT GIBSON, January 30th, 1839.

DEAR COLE: As you seem to take an interest in every thing pertaining to the army, and more particularly to the corps, that, for more than fifteen years has been upon your frontier, I give you this article. It may, at this time, interest your readers, or such of them who like to hear of our little army.

I have been here for some weeks, "a looker on in Venice," with but little business to occupy my time. An intercourse with the officers of this (7th) regiment has, to a great degree, prepossessed me in their favor; their hospitality and courteous deportment would win the esteem of a cynic. They have, for some time, been aware that so soon as the fourth regiment of infantry could reach this post, from their duties in removing the Cherokees from Georgia, that they were to make a campaign in Florida; and although they have preceded for anticipating fatiguing marches, hard fighting, and no glory, they will, with cheerfulness, take up the line of march.

I commenced this with the design of merely describing the reception of the commanding officer of this regiment, Lieut. Col. WHISTLER, who has been absent for some months on furlough; but I could not allude to the regiment without paying the slight tribute of an humble citizen's admiration of the sterling worth of its officers, and the *esprit du corps* of the private soldiers, as manifested in the prompt discharge of their duties, and of their excellent moral character.

About noon, yesterday, it was announced that Col. Whistler was approaching. The news flew like lightning through the barracks, and the men turned out to greet their officer at the gates of the fort. As his wagon drove up, they collected around it, and cheered. The Colonel then dismounted; he was received with enthusiastic bursts of cheering; every head was uncovered; they surrounded him, each one emulous in showing his joy at their officer's arrival; and last night they collected and proceeded with the band of music to serenade him. I believe he has taken every soldier by the hand.

It must have afforded the gallant old soldier great gratification to be thus received after a long absence. Napoleon, by many a bloody field, won the admiration of a people whose characteristic was enthusiasm, who were easily won by any thing dazzling or brilliant; but it must be substantial, real worth, that elicits it from the disciplined soldiers of our army.

They leave in a few days for Florida. L. W.

NATIONAL DEFENCE NECESSARY, AND THE MEANS.—Now that the people are not only *talking* about a war with Great Britain, but actually *thinking* of it, the inquiry may well be instituted, "what are our means, offensive and defensive, for carrying on a contest, in which the great object is to see which party can injure the other most effectually?" We have a few forts, the remnants of better days, and a few costly fortifications, the monuments of electioneering liberality, which, if properly manned and early admonished, might destroy one or two vessels of a fleet, windbound within reach of their guns. But the mode of offensive warfare is undergoing a change; it is not now the point of honor with an assailing squadron to stop at a fort to be assailed and try conclusions *there*; but *now* the assailants pass the forts and hindrances as they can, and if one avenue to a city is fortified and the other is not, no rule of chivalry is recognized to induce the fleet to take the former and avoid the latter; but it has now become a settled principle of invading warfare, that the *object* of attack shall be reached as early and as directly as possible—and, hence, Great Britain, France, and Russia have supplied themselves with squadrons of steam ships of war, by which the *immoveable* fortifications and batteries, few and far between, along our coasts, can be avoided, and the cities and towns above



them, which they are intended to protect, can be reached as well as if the invaders were to drop down from a thunder cloud above. If it had not been for the ice, for which no thanks are to be rendered to Congress, the French steam ship of war *Veloce* would have disturbed the deliberations of Congress by her national salute, within cannon shot of the capitol; and every port in the Union, from New Orleans to Eastport, is in the most exposed situation. Last year, the steam power of Great Britain, France and Russia, was as follows:

Steam Govern- ment ships.	In com- mission.	Ordi- nary.	Build- ing.	Total.
England,	5	2	5	12
On foreign stations,	13	-	-	13
Post Office packets,	28	-	-	28

Total,

53

Of which 12 are ships of war.

France,	22	6	9	37
Russia,	8	-	-	8

The steam power of the United States is nothing, the *Fulton* being rather below zero. Now the wants of the nation have been made known repeatedly. Several years since, the measure of providing steam batteries or steam ships, was urged upon the Government, but, alas! the whole business of the Executive seems to have been to feed, feed, feed itself and its supporters, perpetuate its dynasty, and die:

To draw nutrition, propagate, and rot.

When now several portions of the Union are provoking or inviting a war with the greatest maritime power in the world, why is not the Government preparing for defence at home and offence abroad, rather than living in the exact reverse? Will she allow a war to grow out of the Maine or Canada troubles, without the means of sustaining it? If so, some southern mail may hereafter bring us the news, that while Congress was deliberating on a sub-treasury bill, the Philistines came up the Potomac in their steam ships, carried off the executive and legislative authorities, and again destroyed the capitol.

We are not writing an article for party politics; it is commercial, economical, national, and the subject to which we refer concerns every citizen.—*United States Gazette*.

**THE NEW MILITIA BILL.**—The National *Ægis*, published at Worcester, Mass., contains among other legislative proceedings, the following sketch of the Militia bill, which is now before the Legislature of that Commonwealth:

"The report of the Commissioners to revise the militia laws of the Commonwealth, together with the opinion of the Justices of the Supreme Court on the power of exemption possessed by the State Legislature, and an act concerning the Militia, are now before the Legislature. It is important that the principles embodied in the latter should be maturely considered, and well understood, by those whose interests it will so much affect. We briefly noticed upon a former occasion some of its most important provisions. The following additional particulars are gathered from a more particular examination of the bill.

The large number of exemptions and the unjust impartiality of the distinctions between citizens and classes, was one of the greatest objections to the old law. It is now proposed to exempt only justices of the Supreme judicial court, and court of common pleas, judges of the municipal court and of probate, the clerks of the courts, registers of deeds and of probate, sheriffs, officers who have held commissions five years or who have been superseded and discharged, ministers of the gospel, officers and assistants employed in the public hospitals in Boston, Charlestown, and Worcester, and in the State Prison. Members of the religious denomination of shakers and quakers are to be exempted, upon producing certificates

of their religious scruples against bearing arms. The propriety of extending indulgence to this class of persons was doubted by the commissioners. They could not entirely reconcile their entire immunity with the principle laid down in the Bill of Rights, that every individual is bound to contribute his share to the expense of protection, in the enjoyment of life, liberty and property, by his personal service, or an equivalent when necessary. They found that they do not enjoy such immunity in the other States of the Union, and were finally influenced, they say, more by a regard to what is due to long accustomed privilege than by any conviction of its original justice or propriety. It is difficult to reconcile with the constitution which guarantees to the members of all religious denominations, the equal protection of the law, the provision of a law which discharges a large portion of the citizens, on account of their religion, from the duty of upholding the institutions under which they live, and which protect them in the enjoyment of life and property.

The volunteer companies in each brigade, whenever they exist in sufficient numbers, and are conveniently located, may be organized into separate regiments or battalions. Where such organization would be inconvenient or inexpedient, they will be attached to the regiments of infantry.

The term of enlistment to the members of the volunteer companies is changed from seven to five years.

Judge Advocates are to be appointed in each brigade, who are to have the exclusive original jurisdiction of all prosecutions for neglect of military duty, now cognizable by justices of the peace.

The proposed law is, perhaps, as perfect as under the circumstances can be expected; and with the single exception of the immunity granted to members of certain religious denominations, and this will be a recommendation with many, is free from all the objections urged against former systems. We reiterate the expression of belief that it will be entirely satisfactory to most of those who will be subject to its provisions, and who are not opposed to the whole institution."

**AN ELEMENTARY TREATISE ON OPTICS, DESIGNED FOR THE USE OF THE CADETS OF THE U. S. MILITARY ACADEMY.** By W. H. C. BARTLETT, A. M., Professor of Natural and Experimental Philosophy in the Academy. New York: Wiley & Putnam.—The object of this work appears to be to give a complete exhibition to that branch of the subject called *Formal Optics*, setting forth the laws which are obeyed in the well established phenomena of the science, without entering into any discussion of the theories by which they are explained. A treatise of this kind has been long wanted, as we believe that neither in England nor in France is there any similar work in existence, holding a proper medium between an unsatisfactory popular explanation, and those voluminous disquisitions, which, blending together both *Formal* and *Physical Optics*, enter into the theory of Optics, at the same time that they explain the facts and rigid principles of the science. It appears to us that the above work has admirably succeeded in accomplishing this object, and has thus supplied a desideratum, which scientific men and those engaged in instruction will fully appreciate. In the whole work the most thorough and rigid modes of investigation prevail. The style is clear, concise, and satisfactory, and the order of arrangement is excellent. It appears to aim at singular unity of design, which is well carried out in the execution.

To perform such a task well, the writer was no doubt obliged to examine with great care many extended treatises, and carefully to separate the hypothetical from the true. The analytical methods of investigation which he has adopted are generally elegant, and neatly stated.

But a very few years have elapsed since many very important discoveries have been made in this beautiful science. Its elements have been constantly accumulating, without being grouped or classified into a satisfactory system. A work by Coddington appears to have approached nearer to effecting that object than any which has been published in England or France, though incomplete and unsatisfactory on some points. It is gratifying to find that it has been so well accomplished on this side of the Atlantic. The system and arrangement is such, that we think we are justified in saying that the author has executed far more than the task of a barren compilation, though the preface modestly refers to several distinguished writers as furnishing the materials for the work.

The treatise not only elucidates all the important principles upon which optical instruments are constructed, but it also gives a clear and complete description of the most important of those instruments. Those useful and highly curious instruments, the micrometer and dynameter, are well explained.

Though it is certain that one cannot by any means understand the progress which has been made in the investigation of the subtle agent of light, without studying the profound disquisitions of the Undulatory Theory with which modern science is enriched; still many think that the object of a text-book is best accomplished by not entangling elementary principles and well ascertained phenomena with such speculations. The author of the work before us has succeeded in a remarkable degree, in rigidly excluding every thing connected with the occult question of the nature of light; still we are much inclined to think that a complete and well settled theory might assist the learner in grasping and systemizing his knowledge of the subject.—*New York American*.

"VOYAGES OF THE MORRISON AND HIMMELAH."—We have quoted the lettering on the outside of two as beautifully executed volumes as have of late emanated from the New York press. The object of these volumes though from different pens, appears to be the same, and is thus expressed in the general title-page, viz; "*The claims of Japan and Malaysia upon Amsterdam, exhibited in notes of voyages made in 1837 from Canton, in the ship Morrison and brig Himmelah, under the direction of the owners.*" The first volume is from the pen of C. W. KING, and is entitled "*notes of the voyage of the Morrison from Canton to Japan.*" Nearly one half of the first volume is occupied with an "introduction," the object of which seems to be that of setting forth the prominent facts, in the intercourse which once subsisted between western nations and the Japanese empire. This memoranda, it may be inferred, has been prefixed from the rare works of Charlevoix, Kaempfer, Titsingh, Raffles, Krusenstern, and others. It gives, under distinct heads, a comprehensive view of the commercial intercourse, 1st of the Portuguese and Spanish, 2d of the Dutch, 3d of the British, 4th of the Russians, and embodies under these heads many interesting facts which are new to us, and will, we think, prove so to the readers of this volume. The remainder of the volume describes the author's voyage to, and stay at Napakiang—transactions in the bay of Jeddo—voyage to and transactions in the bay of Cagosima—return to China—inferences from the voyage, with some interesting nautical memoranda and tables. The second volume, "*notes made during the voyage of the Himmelah in the Maylayan Archipelago,*" is from the pen of G. T. LACY, naturalist in Beechey's expedition, and now agent for the British and Foreign Bible Society for eastern Asia. The plan of this voyage it would seem was drawn out, and the costs of the expedition sustained by the owners of the American brig Himmelah, and its object to ascertain whether any openings could be discovered for missionary effort, to set on foot some kind of com-

mercial understanding with Borneo Proper, and at the same time gather as much information of a religious, moral, and scientific nature as possible, with the view of calling the attention of Christians on both sides of the Atlantic to this portion of the globe. With the missionary cause as the ostensible object in view, the author has besides bestowed considerable attention upon national researches, and the result of his efforts is the production of a volume, embracing a mass of information relative to a portion of the globe, of which comparatively little is known, that can scarcely fail of proving highly interesting to the general reader. The volumes are creditable to the taste and liberality of the enterprising publisher, E. French, of 146 Nassau street. They are illustrated with several neat, and we presume, correct, maps of the places visited.—*N. Y. Gazette*.

Lieutenant JOSIAH STURGIS has been promoted to a captaincy in the revenue service, and appointed to the command of the Cutter Hamilton, on the Boston Station. This promotion will give great satisfaction to his numerous friends in that city, and at other stations where he has sailed. He has been acting captain of the Hamilton for some time, but there being older lieutenants in the service, has prevented his earlier promotion. As an officer and seaman he has no superior. The alacrity with which he has hastened in the hour of need to the rescue of perilled property and life, has been gratefully acknowledged by those who have been benefitted by his exertions, and his untiring zeal for the promotion of the interests of the mercantile community is only equalled by his vigilance and fidelity to the department by which he is employed.—*Providence Jour*.

The Providence Journal is right in its praise of Capt. Sturgis. He is what sailors call "a whole soul fellow." He makes no pretensions to drawing room graces, but goes "right ahead," minding his own business, and letting the business of other people alone. He has done more for the mercantile interest than either of his predecessors for many years. He is an excellent seaman, and would rather work than play at any time, "blow high or blow low." We are right glad that he is promoted to a captaincy, and all the harm we wish him is, that there was a commodore's grade in the revenue service.—*Boston Transcript*.

CAPT. STURGIS.—It always affords us pleasure to hear of the prosperity and happiness of this gentleman. We have known and enjoyed his acquaintance for a number of years, and therefore must be permitted to know something of his progress in life during the period of our acquaintance.

In the year 1809, he sailed from Boston, as a boy, with Capt. James Percival, whose vessel was run into by the British sloop of war Atalanta at midnight, off the Western islands, and the vessel sunk without saving any thing excepting what he had on his back. He was kept on board the Atalanta a short time, and then released in Bermuda. After his return to Boston he shipped in the employ of Messrs. James and Thomas H. Perkins, as a boy, and continued in their employ until raised to command. He was eleven years in the ship Levant. He sailed as a boy in the Levant, and finally commanded that ship in Canton; and after making several Canton voyages, and round the world, was, obliged, from ill health, to abandon long voyages. He was offered the command of the brig Clio, by Admiral Sir I. Coffin. He was obliged to quit the sea finally, and through strong testimonials was appointed a first lieutenant in the revenue cutter service in 1832. He was ordered to Charleston, S. C., on the breaking out of Nullification, and after that affair, he was ordered, as first lieutenant, to New Bedford, and remained there nearly five years, and most all the time in command. In May, he was ordered here as first lieutenant. He has been recently promoted to the captaincy of the U. S. re-



venue cutter Hamilton, and if we had the power of promotion, he should have a frigate of the largest class in the service. He has talent, and deserves promotion. As an officer and seaman he has no superior.—*Boston Evening Gazette.*

**ENCOURAGING ANECDOTE.**—The illustrious Admiral Jervis, the hero of St. Vincent, who rose to the first rank in the British navy, and to the peerage, as Earl of St. Vincent, has left on record, under his own hand, a lesson full of instruction and promise for the young mishipman, or any other youth of limited pecuniary means, and of honorable ambition. His father, he writes, set him afloat in the navy, with an outfit of 20 pounds, a laced hat, a sword, and a coat which fitted him like a sack, being made large, for him to grow up to it. The 20 pounds being expended, he contracted a debt for 20 more, for which he drew upon his father, and the draft was dishonored. Whereupon the young hero left his mess; drew his rations with the common sailors; made his second pair of trowsers with his own hands, out of the ticking of his hammock; and "ever since then," he said, with emphasis, "I never lived beyond my means." He never afterwards could tolerate an officer's getting in debt, saying they had much better live on rations.—*Charleston, S. C., Mercury.*

**FIRE AT JEFFERSON BARRACKS**—We are sorry to hear of the destruction, by fire, of the private residence of Capt. George H. Kennerly, at Jefferson Barracks. The fire broke out yesterday morning about 4 o'clock, and every thing in the building was consumed. Loss about \$3,000.—*St. Louis Republican, Feb. 17.*

### ORIGINAL POETRY.

#### THE SCARCE FORGOTTEN.

BY LIEUT. G. W. PATTEN, U. S. ARMY.

They met, while thro' the chamber  
Full floated music rare;  
The self-same charm was on her cheek  
As oft had linger'd there.  
Gladness was in her glances,  
Softness was in her tone;  
And yet her image from his breast  
With all its light had gone.  
Her burning glance was on him,  
Yet passed he idly by;  
The rose had changed not on his cheek,  
Beneath her conscious eye.  
Still an early dream came o'er him,  
Of mingled love and pride;  
He saw the idol of his youth;  
And he saw another's bride.  
The whirling dance wove mazes,  
Wherein her feet kept time;  
Her sailing step went down the hall,  
To the sound of the measured chime.  
But he heeded not her motions,  
And he never praised nor blamed,  
Pray, what had his weak words to do,  
With what another claimed?  
They met—as meets the stranger,  
Without a smile or frown;  
Yet dimly shining thro' the past,  
Did memory's star look down.  
While softly syren fingers,  
Touched a forgotten string;  
Why strive ye with your spectre strain,  
To raise a vanished thing;  
Love's cloud which so did lower,  
When its lightnings pierced his breast.  
Like wanton waves when winds go down,  
Hath melted long to rest,  
And the mystic thought which bound him  
Strong as a mortal tie,  
Slow fading thro' the mist of years,  
At length hath floated by.

INTERIOR OF THE OKEFENOKEE, GA., }  
December 20, 1838. }

### STANZAS.

BY LIEUT. G. W. PATTEN, U. S. A.

Written on Trembling island, in the Okefenokee swamp on the first evening that it was ever pressed by the foot of a white man.

Pale eve, on wing of starlight rays,  
Flits o'er the hostile glen,  
Too broadly glares our watch-fire blaze,  
Rouse up, my weary men.  
Yon flame, like love, tho' seeming bright,  
Betrays us with its charms,  
The archer aims beneath its light,  
To arms—my boys, to arms!

He comes, as comes the summer's breath,  
As stealthy comes the doe;  
Draw out the sabre from its sheath,  
And wait the wary foe.  
Think not your couch, like woman's bed,  
Is rife with soft alarms;  
The yell of blood ye hear instead;  
To arms—my boys, to arms!

Rouse up, and let no coward fear  
Arraign your bearing high;  
Fond Pity sheds her choicest tear,  
To see a soldier die.  
And when the life-flame burneth dim,  
Within the breast it warms,  
'Tis glory twines a wreath for him;  
To arms—my boys, to arms!

### SELECTED POETRY.

TRANSCRIBED FOR THE ARMY AND NAVY CHRONICLE.  
From the *New York Daily Advertiser* of Nov. 14, 1787.

#### AN ELEGY, ON LIEUT. J. W. DE HART.

*Volunteer Aide-de-Camp to General Wayne.*

[This young warrior was killed in the attack on the block house near Fort Lee, 1781.]

WRITTEN BY COL. HUMPHREYS,

*Late Aid-de-Camp to General Washington.*

When autumn all humid and drear,  
With darkness and storms in his train,  
Announcing the death of the year,  
Despoiled of its verdure the plain;  
When honor congenial prevail'd,  
Where graves are with fearfulness trod,  
De Hart by his sister was wail'd,  
His sister thus sigh'd o'er his sod:

"Near Hudson, a fort on these banks,  
Its flag of defiance unfurled;  
He led to the storm the first ranks;  
On them iron tempests were hurl'd,  
Transpierced was his breast with a ball—  
His breast a red fountain supplied,  
Which, gushing in waves still and small,  
Distained his white bosom and side.  
His visage was ghastly in death,  
His hair, that so lavishly curl'd,  
I saw, as he lay on the heath,  
In blood, and with dew drops impearl'd.  
How dumb is the tongue that could speak  
Whate'er could engage and delight,  
How faded the rose on his cheek!  
Those eyes, how enveloped in night!  
Those eyes that illumined each soul,  
All darkened to us are now grown;  
In far other orbits they roll,  
Like stars to new systems when gone.  
My brother! the pride of the plain,  
In vain did the graces adorn;  
His blossom unfolded in vain,  
To die like the blossom of morn.  
Oh war! thou hast wasted our clime,  
And tortured my bosom with sighs;  
My brother who fell ere his prime,  
For ever is torn from mine eyes—  
To me how distracting the storm,  
That blasted the youth in his bloom;  
Alas! was so finished a form  
Designed for so early a tomb.  
How bright were the prospects that shone—  
Their ruin 'tis mine to deplore—  
Health, beauty, and youth were his own,  
Health, beauty, and youth are no more.

Thrice six times the spring had renewed  
 Its youth and its charms for the boy;  
 With rapture all nature he view'd,  
 For nature he knew to enjoy.  
 But chiefly his country would charm,  
 He felt 'twas a generous heat—  
 With drums and the trumpet's alarm  
 His pulses in consonance beat.  
 Ye heroes, to whom he was dear,  
 Come weep o'er this sorrowful urn;  
 Come ease the full heart with a tear,  
 My hero will never return.  
 He died in the dawn of applause,  
 His country demanded his death;  
 Go, heroes, defend the same cause,  
 Avenge, with your country, his death."

So sang on the top of the rocks,  
 The virgin in sorrow more fair;  
 In tears her blue eyes—and her locks  
 Of auburn flew loose on the air.  
 I heard as I passed down the stream,  
 The guards of the foe were in view—  
 To enterprise fired by the theme,  
 I bade the sweet mourner adieu.

The following lines, which disclose their subject in the beginning, were handed us yesterday morning by the Rev. Walter Colton, of the U. S. navy. That officer, much as he has produced that is good, has never excelled this effusion. It is touching—it is beautiful.

*For the Philadelphia Gazette.*  
 STANZAS:

*Suggested by a recent instance of suicide, resulting from the despair of disappointed affection.*

No tears regret may shed for thee  
 Can now avail to save;  
 No smiles, that love may now decree,  
 Can light thy lowly grave;  
 All dark the deed that drained the bowl,  
 And freed from earthly ill the soul—  
 Uncalled by him who gave!  
 Yet blighted hopes and passion plead;  
 And erring pity veils the deed!

What now to thee that envied hearth,  
 That sweet surviving thrall?  
 Alike the voice of wail or mirth,  
 Where death's dim shadows fall;  
 The all, which love could once repay,  
 With thy own heart hath passed away;  
 Nor may it now recal  
 More than a faint and fitful beam,  
 To light thee back in mem'ry's dream.

But they, who never lov'd as thou,  
 May doubt, in their dismay,  
 If reason, on thy burning vow,  
 Poured its diviner ray:  
 They only know that feeble flame,  
 Which most may quench and all may tame,  
 In their less-sensate clay;  
 And deem the heart may calmly bear  
 The frenzied grief of love's despair.

There is in ruined hopes a leaf,  
 By others all unread,  
 Portrayed in characters of grief,  
 That paint the early dead.  
 Dim words, that with a prophet tone,  
 O'er all, where light and love have shone,  
 Their sable shadows spread;  
 And such to thee the future rose,  
 When crime escaped its omen'd woes.

What passed with thy departing breath,  
 In shape of hurried prayer,  
 Unknown to those, who watched till death  
 Had left its stillness there;  
 It may have been a pleading tone,  
 That winged its way to Mercy's throne—  
 Unquenched by guilt's despair—  
 And won, with its availing tears,  
 The meed of long repentant years.

W. C., U. S. Navy.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 22.

WASHINGTON CITY;  
 THURSDAY, ..... MARCH 7, 1839.

It is a prevalent opinion among military and naval men, that rewards for good conduct, or for long and faithful services, are among the strongest incentives that can be offered, either to good men to enlist, or to remain in service after the expiration of their first term. Persons who hold these opinions act only upon a knowledge of human nature, which is similar in its general leading characteristics all the world over.

Military men will tell you that an old soldier is worth two recruits; and naval men know that an "old salt" is of more use in a gale at sea than a dozen greenhorns; but the unexampled growth of our young country, where men are more wanted than material, holds out to men of intelligence and enterprise prospects too flattering to keep them always in a subordinate sphere. That equality which all feel, and which the laws and the constitution recognize—the eligibility to offices of honor and emolument, which all can aspire to—teaches young men of spirit, that they are not to be perpetually tied down to the drudgery of inferior stations.

The parsimony of our Government (*economy* is another term) which looks at the cheapness of things rather than the quality, distrusts the granting too much to the discretion of its agents. Power, vesting in and emanating from the people, is to be exercised with safety only by the people's representatives; and these being a numerous body are acted upon with more difficulty than individuals. So many conflicting interests must be reconciled, before a measure is deemed of sufficient general importance to become a law, that justice is often tardy, and rewards scarcely ever meted. Hence it is that Republics are sometimes called ungrateful. It is not because the people composing a republic have less appreciation of real merit, or are indifferent to gallant actions. But the Government is slow to recompense, where so many have the privilege to approve or disapprove.

A monarch, who possesses power over the purse and the sword, may have his sympathies enlisted in favor of some act of heroism, and order a suitable reward to be given instant. He fears no superior power, who may approve or disapprove his act. True, he may bestow his smiles upon his favorites or upon the unworthy.

We have been led to these reflections by a perusal of the following paragraph, copied from the London United Service Gazette of the 2d Feb:

On Wednesday the Royal Marines were formed into a hollow square on the parade in front of Chatham barracks. The commandant, Colonel Lawrence, having called forward Sergeant Robert Drake to the centre of the square, directed the adjutant to read the clause of the Mutiny Act which relates to rewards, and to good and bad conduct of soldiers. The gallant officer then proceeded to read a letter from the Deputy-Adjutant General of the Royal Marines, stating that the Lords of the admiralty had been pleased to award a silver medal, and a gratuity of 15*l.* to Sergeant Drake for long service and good conduct.



We cannot but think that a small sum might safely be placed at the discretion of the Executive, to be employed in rewarding good conduct and faithful services in non-commissioned officers and soldiers, and petty officers and seamen.

**OREGON TERRITORY.**—On the 4th January last, Mr. CUSHING, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, submitted to the House of Representatives a Report, in part, in relation to the territory of the United States beyond the Rocky Mountains. This Report displays much research, and enters into a history of the discovery of the Columbia river, the conflicting claims to the adjacent territory, and quotes the recommendations of Presidents MONROE and ADAMS, for the establishment of a military post at the mouth of the Columbia. It concludes with a Bill, authorizing the President to employ such portions of the army and navy as he may deem necessary for the protection of the persons and property of such citizens of the United States as may reside in the territory of Oregon, or as are employed in commerce on the Columbia river, its tributaries, and on its marine coast. The second section provides for the appropriation of a sum of money (blank not filled) to carry into effect the first section.

For want of time, this bill was not taken up, but the day is not distant when the question of protection to settlers of that now remote and uncultivated territory, will force itself upon the attention of Congress. The tide of emigration will be in advance of legislation, as the spirit of commercial enterprise has hitherto anticipated national or government expeditions, by discovering for itself new countries and new markets.

For years past has this measure been urged upon the attention of Congress; and yet, to the shame of that body be it spoken, to this day has no answer been made to the call. It may be of some interest to freshen the memories our readers and the public with the recollection of what has been heretofore done—or recommended to be done; and in our columns of to-day will be found a Report of a committee of Congress, presented nearly fifteen years ago. This Report is very short, and the committee adopt, as a part of it, a letter from Quartermaster General JESUP, giving his views of the measures necessary to be pursued. In a military point of view, this is as much as the army and navy are particularly concerned in.

The French steam frigate *Veloce* arrived at New York on Tuesday, 26th ult., and would remain a few days prior to her departure for Brest. The object of her visit is not stated—whether to gratify the curiosity of the citizens of the commercial emporium, or to obtain repairs or articles which could not be had in Baltimore.

The proceedings of Congress, as a matter of record, will be prepared and published as early as practicable.

At the latest dates from the northeastern frontier, all was quiet; no overt act of hostility had been committed on either side, and the prospect of a speedy restoration to harmony was favorable.

Commodore DAVID PORTER has been appointed Minister Resident at Constantinople.

#### PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS,

IN THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS,

*By and with the advice and consent of the Senate.*

##### NAVY.

###### Commanders to be Captains.

Robert F. Stockton,	8 Dec. 1838
Isaac McKeever,	8 Dec. 1838
John P. Zantzing,	22 Dec. 1838
William D. Salter,	3 Mar. 1839

###### Lieutenants to be Commanders.

Lewis E. Simonds,	22 Dec. 1838
John M. Dale,	12 Feb. 1839

###### Passed Midshipmen to be Lieutenants.

John Weems,	22 Dec. 1838
Charles S. Ridgely,	22 Dec. 1838
Robert E. Johnson,	12 Feb. 1839

###### To be a Purser.

Hugh W. Greene,	28 Feb. 1839
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##### MARINE CORPS.

Richard Douglas, to be Captain, 24 Feb., 1839, *vice* McCawley, deceased.

B. E. Brooke, to be First Lieutenant, 7 Feb., 1839, *vice* McLean, resigned.

Jabez C. Rich, to be First Lieutenant, 24 Feb., 1839, *vice* Douglas, promoted.

###### To be Second Lieutenants.

William B. Slack,	28 Jan. 1839
William L. Shuttleworth,	28 Feb. 1839
James Maguire,	28 Feb. 1839
Robert D. Taylor,	2 Mar. 1839

#### ARRIVALS AT WASHINGTON.

Feb. 26—Capt. J. Brown, 6th infantry,	Georgetown.
28—Capt. J. R. Irwin, A. Q. M.	Fuller's.
Mar. 6—Lt. A. A. Humphreys, Top. Engrs.	Georgetown.
Captain D. Geisinger, navy,	Gadsby's.

#### LETTERS ADVERTISED.

WASHINGTON, March 1, 1839.

ARMY—Captain B. L. Beall 4, Colonel W. S. Harney, Major J. L. Smith, Col. S. Thayer, Capt. C. A. Waite, Capt. W. G. Williams.

NAVY—Commo. J. D. Elliott 4, Lieut. J. P. Gillis, Lieut. W. M. Glendy, Lieut. T. J. Manning, Lt. C. H. McBlair, Lieut. J. S. Paine, Lieut. L. M. Powell, Wm. Ronckendorff, Capt. G. W. Storer.

NORFOLK, March 1, 1839.

NAVY—Captains Paine, D. Turner 7, F. Forrest; Lieutenants J. T. Gerry, G. Ashton, S. E. Munn 2, W. D. Porter; Drs. G. W. Peete, T. Dillard 2, D. Egbert, R. M. Leacock, McLeod; Prof. M. Yarnall; Comm'r brig Porpoise; Pursers H. Etting, N. Wilson 2; Midshipmen W. E. Muse, W. H. Adams, L. Stoddard, H. C. Flagg, G. R. Gray, W. Bartlett, C. E. Flemming, J. S. Maury, ——— Wilson, C. Saunders, W. Ronckendorff.

MARINE CORPS—Captain John Harris.

#### PASSENGERS.

SAVANNAH, Feb. 24, per steamboat Florida, from St. Augustine, Lieuts. R. McLane, H. W. Benham, and T. Casey, of the army.

OFFICIAL ARMY REGISTER, 1839.—Just published and for sale at this office. Price 50 cents. March 7.

## COMMUNICATIONS.

## FLORIDA CAMPAIGN—1837.

*Extract from the private journal of a late field officer.*

January 27, 1837.—We marched early this morning, and after proceeding about 5 miles, began to take cattle, and by the close of the day had secured nearly 300 head; we also took 300 Indian ponies, some of which were loaded with dried beef, and the koun-tee root, which the Seminoles use for bread, in place of the corn which they used to raise in times of peace; this is sometimes also called the cherry-briar root.

Our advance was engaged with a party of Indians and negroes; and sergeant Madison, an orderly of Gen. Jesup, was sent to give information to the main body; he took a wrong trail, and was killed, three balls having passed through his breast. In the pursuit two marines were killed and three wounded, though it is not known that more than one negro woman was killed, belonging to the enemy; about twenty women and children were taken, the greater part of whom were negroes. Our Creek Indians became alarmed, and we had difficulty to command their services.

On the first news of the advance being attacked, I was ordered to move forward and support it, with the 6th infantry, and started in an instant, at double quick; marching about six miles in an hour and a quarter, and when we came up to where the enemy had been found, I was again ordered to advance and support Major Graham and the Indians, who were a short distance in advance; and after marching at a rapid rate for two miles further, I was ordered to charge on the cabbage-tree hammock, where the Indians were supposed to be; but though we went through, they had abandoned the ground, and retired further, to where the village was subsequently found very recently abandoned, leaving every thing standing in its place.

In passing through the hammock we had the greatest difficulty, as the water was in many places three feet deep, and the briars were like ropes and cords about our feet. Night closed in upon us, and we brought in the murdered body of sergeant Madison. We arrived in camp about three hours after dark. The Indians had stripped the body, but did not take his scalp.

When we commenced our advance, I rode along the line, and told the men to be cool and deliberate, if they came into action, and not to lose a shot; to advance to the charge with *trailed arms* and muskets loaded, and not to fire until they faced the enemy, and then to shoot him about the centre of the body. I also told them to "*remember the regiment*;" and I had no cause to complain. The regiment moved in gallant style, and, had they found the enemy, would have gained reputation.

Jan. 28.—We are remaining in camp this morning, refreshing our men from the abundance of fresh beef we had taken, and which proved very acceptable, as the troops were put on half rations of bacon and bread.

It is supposed that the Seminoles, at the commencement of hostilities, drove away from the settlements many thousand head of cattle, into the interior of their own country, thus providing a commissariat, to furnish them with food, as cattle find a good grazing all the year in Florida. The Seminoles have the most certain subsistence from this source of supply, of which we captured to-day about 200 head more, which gives us a large quantity.

Yesterday we passed over a large glade, having the palmetto, or cabbage tree, scattered here and there, making a very singular and picturesque appearance; and near by we came to a hammock, composed principally of the same tree, which was as singular in appearance as the glade. About 11 A. M., we left our camp, and after marching a few

miles, we came out on the *To-hap-to-la-ga* lake, which is about one hundred miles long, and four to ten broad, and presents a beautiful appearance. It abounds with fish. We found a deep trail on the border of this lake, and numerous other trails leading from it into the interior of the country, which is continually interspersed with glades, hammocks, and pine barrens. Here the bald-headed eagle hovered over our column, and we saw a few geese and white cranes; passed several lodges that had formerly been occupied by the Indians, and a number of log cabins, built on piles of from three to five feet above the ground, but all deserted; in rear of one of the latter was an old clearing, bearing the marks of good cultivation, and containing several good sized orange trees. The weather being rainy, we marched 12 miles, and encamped on the border of the lake.

One of the black prisoners, named *Ben*, who is a slave of *Micanopy*, stated that Jumper and Abraham were in the neighborhood, and would come in if they were sure of their lives. This induced Gen. Jesup to send *Ben*, with a promise of peace and safety for any that would come to our camp to negotiate for peace. The General kept the wife and five children of *Ben*, as hostages for his safe return, promising him his freedom in case of success. Whether *Ben* returns or not, is yet to be seen, and if willing, he may not be permitted; this has caused his wife to be much distressed.

On the head waters of this lake is said to be one of the towns of King Philip, situated on an island about a mile from the main land.

February 17.—“The hostile chief, Cloud, has long commanded the war party in the neighborhood of the *Waa-hoo* and the *Withlacoochee*, and has been aided by *Osceola* and the *Mick-a-su-kies*, and other scattering desperadoes from all directions, who have attached themselves to the desperate fortunes of these men; both of these Indians have declared their determination to die on the soil that has for centuries furnished places of sepulture for the bones of their fathers; and where every hill and valley bears upon its breast the recollections of childhood and the attachments of early life; where their first-born has been nourished, and where the wives of their youth have followed them through all the windings of the dark forest; taking their evening meal on a beautiful glade, or beneath the spreading branches of nature's canopy; collecting food from the shores of the great deep, and retiring into the impenetrable recesses of the hammocks and glades. So they say they have lived—and so they say they will die.

“From the best information that can be obtained, it would appear that the force of the Indians in Florida amounts to about 1,450 warriors and 250 negroes; one hundred of the latter are Indian slaves, and the one hundred and fifty are runaways. *Micanopy* and *Jumper* are said to have about 180 warriors; *Yoho-tou-chee*, or *Cloud*, and *Alligator* 50; *Emathla*, or *King Philip*, 100; *Sam Jones*, or *A-pi-aka*, the *Mick-asukie* chief, (*to look back*), 200; *Ma-co-che-a-halah*, 100; *Na-path-ba-co*, or *Great Fat Chief*, 120.

*Pith-ba-ha-la*, or *Ferry Master* in *Pease creek*, 100. *Ho-la-tou-chee*, or *Davy*, near *Charlotte's Harbor*, 100.

*Tat-lo-Emathla*, or *Fish Chief*, 50.

*He-ne ha-Esmi-doon*, living at the head of *Pease creek*, 80.

*Tal-se-tus-te-nuggee*, or *Town Officer*, 40.

*Och-ta-ha-mi-co* and *Black Dirt*, 40.

*Ho-la-ta-mi-co* and his brother *Hath-la-po Ha-jo*, reside on *Pease creek*, and the latter is termed “The all-conquering Warrior,” 20.

*Ko-ha-jo*, or *Crazy Wild Cat*, lives near the *Capes of Florida*, and *Hasgo-Es-sa-Emathla*, living on the islands near the sea coast, 40.

*Ya-ha-Emathla*, or *Dog King*, 40—making a total of about 1,700 fighting men, that can be brought into the field.



'The Cloud' is of middle stature, rather stout built, and appears to be about 50 years old; he has nothing particular in his appearance. Holatouchee is as fine a looking Indian warrior as I have ever seen; he is about six feet one inch in height, straight as an arrow; has an eye like the eagle when watching her young, is strongly made, without approaching to corpulence, and has an air of defiance and command that is rarely to be met with, even in a son of the glades. I should consider him as one of those desperate spirits, whom adversity alone can subdue.

One of the largest rattlesnakes I have ever seen was killed on the border of our camp, and measured six feet eight inches in length; it was thick as a man's leg, and had a full grown rabbit in its belly; and had on one side of its jaw an additional tusk."

March 8.—"This morning was ushered in by the roll of the muffled drum and the swelling notes of the funeral hymn; and as my steps were directed to the place from which they came, I learnt that the father of John-a-poney was following to the grave his eldest son, one of our young Creek warriors. This young man was just arriving at the period of manhood, and had given fair promise to his parent of future respectability among his nation, for he now enjoyed a consideration seldom attained by any one so young. He was buried according to our forms, and had a captain's escort. His father, his sister, and his relatives followed as mourners.

"The General and many officers of the army attended, as well as about 500 Indians and 100 spectators. After our forms had been concluded, and when the body was ready to be covered in the grave, the old chief advanced, and with much feeling, deposited at the head of the coffin, his son's great coat, his blanket, a sack of provisions, and a belt of wampum, to be used by the dead in his passage to the land where his fathers had gone before him, and where he expected to find all the reward of the warrior: with shady woods and glades filled with game; clear and beautiful streams of water, abounding in fish, and an eternal sunshine with a cloudless sky.

"The father and the sister had their heads covered with a black cloth, to hide their emotions, and appeared much affected; the former showed that of the heart of the parent, but the war-chief endeavored to hide his tears."

#### FLORIDA WAR.

TAMPA BAY, Feb. 13, 1839.

SIR: In a day or two the Exploring Expedition sails hence to the Pai-hi-okea or Grassy Water. General Taylor has not been idle since the command of the troops in Florida was intrusted to him. He has established one important fact, that to run after the Indians with the view to capture or give them battle is useless and absurd. He has been alone, or attended only by his personal staff, through the most dangerous portions of the territory; he has sought for the Indians in all places, with parties of men from ten to ten hundred, and has never been able to bring the hostiles to action since the memorable affair of the Okeechobee, where they challenged him to the field. He, in common with every officer in the country, is satisfied that any further attempts to meet the enemy will result only in loss of time, health and means. The only object to be accomplished, therefore, is the protection of the people of Florida. This can be done only by a military occupation of the Indian nation or between the Georgia line and the road from Tampa to Fort King. The security of the inhabitants, so as to allow them to cultivate their lands, should be, under the circumstances, the only object in view. Notwithstanding the correctness of this opinion and belief, the General continues his active operations, hoping the enemy may be met by some portion of the army. As above stated, in a day or two a command leaves this place for the Everglades, which it will enter through Long creek and Galli-

van's bay. The Indians, or a portion of them, are reported to be on the Pine islands, nearly in the centre of the Grassy lake. General Taylor and his staff will accompany the command. Col. Davenport, with his regiment, is on the Coloosahatchee, and will move as far towards these islands on the north as he can on land. A command will also move from New river and the head waters of the Miami towards the islands, so that very little prospect of their escape is anticipated. However, if nothing else is established, this movement will show that General Taylor has neither spared himself or the troops under his command, in an honest discharge of his duty to the country.

R.

#### DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

From the Savannah Georgian, Feb. 26.

##### FLORIDA WAR.

By the steamer Charleston, Captain Hubbard, arrived yesterday from Garey's Ferry, the editor of the Georgian has received from his correspondent the information that Col. Fanning has removed to Pilatka, where he now holds his head quarters. Capt. Morris, 4th artillery, with two companies, has gone to establish a post nine miles from Micanopy on the Fort King road. Gen. Taylor has abandoned the expedition to the south, and Major Churchill's command is recalled from the eastern coast.

We yesterday omitted, for the want of room, to acknowledge the receipt, by the steamer Florida, Capt. Nock, of a St. Augustine Herald of Thursday last. We extract the following:

ST. AUGUSTINE, Feb. 21.—We regret to learn that the steamboat Florida will discontinue her trips to this port hereafter. She will, however, run weekly between Savannah and Picolata, whence a stage, we understand, will depart immediately on the arrival of the boat for this place.

We understand that the expedition of Major Churchill to the everglades has been countermanded, and that orders have been issued for his recall. It is contemplated forthwith to establish a line of posts 12 miles apart from Fort Mellon to Tampa.

A report is in circulation that a number of men have been wounded by Indians near the Tuscawill Lake, during last week. We have not ascertained the source whence it emanates.

DISPOSITION OF TROOPS ON SEA BOARD.—Major Churchill, commanding; Lieut. Ridgely, Adjutant; Lieut. Tompkins, A. T. Engineer; Lieut. Taylor; Lieut. Jennings, 3d arty.; Capt. Russell, Lt. Woodruff, 2d infantry, are to reinforce Forts Lauderdale, Pierce, and Key Biscayne.

ARMY ORDERS.—Captain Bryant's company, 2d dragoons, ordered to join Major Ashby.

Capt. Fulton ordered to Fort Deynaud

Major Ashby ordered to Fort Pierce, Indian river, with two companies, to operate between the Atlantic, Okeechobee, and Kissimmee, as low down as Halpatuckee.

Major Churchill, 3d artillery, will reinforce Forts Lauderdale and Dallas, by one company each, and will, by the 25th inst., have his command in position on the head waters of the Miami and New rivers.

The revenue cutter Campbell is ordered to co-operate with Major Churchill.

Two hundred men, and Lieut. McLaughlin, with U. S. sailors, will proceed from Long creek, emptying into Gallivan's Bay on the west, through the Pahaiokee, if practicable, directly across to New river.

Colonel Davenport will operate from Fort Keais, on the edge of the grass water, from the Okeechobee to the Gulf of Mexico.—St. Augustine News, Feb. 16.

PENSACOLA, Feb. 23.—The U. S. sloop of war Boston, Edward B. Babbitt, Esq., Commander, arrived yesterday morning, five days from Havana, after a cruise of one hundred and forty-nine days among the Keys and along the coasts of Florida and Cuba, having passed inside the Florida reefs from Sombrero Key to the Dry Tortugas, a passage never before performed by a sloop of war. The Boston has been detained much longer than her required time in consequence of the active part taken by her commander, in relation to the difficulties arising between the masters of some American vessels, and the authorities of Havana, involving questions of much import to their respective governments.

We learn that before leaving Havana a memorial from the American citizens resident therein and masters of vessels in port, at the time, was presented to Captain Babbitt, expressive of their thanks for the able and zealous manner in which he had espoused their cause, and also their gratitude for the benefit which had accrued to them from the protection afforded by his presence, and begging a continuance of it, should it comport with his duty by remaining at the Havana.

The day previous to the sailing of the Boston, her commander and officers partook of a complimentary dinner given to them on board the ship Orleans of Boston, Capt. Bradbury, by the merchants and shipmasters in port.

A part of the French squadron, consisting of the frigate Iphigenie, and three brigs of war, together with the British 74s, Cornwallis and Edinburgh, and schr. Skipjack, were the only foreign vessels of war at the Havana when the Boston left. By the latter, intelligence was brought from Port Royal, (Jamaica,) of a great mortality prevailing among the officers and men of the British West India squadron; equitation, the yellow fever, having proved more fatal than had been known for many years. We regretted to learn the death of the late Surgeon of H. M. ship Cornwallis, Dr. Scott, who was left at Jamaica with the Admiral Sir Charles Paget, who was under the professional care of the former.

Sir Charles Paget was very ill and had left for Bermuda to join his family, and his ship, the Cornwallis 74, remained at Havana with the Edinburg 74, awaiting orders, expecting they would be for that ship to proceed to Bermuda, and from thence to England, (with the Admiral and family,) under the command of Sir Richard Grant, captain.

We are requested to state that the officers have seen with much regret a statement in some of the late American papers, purporting a very marked slight had been conferred on the officers of the Boston, by those of a British sloop of war at the Havana; so far from this being the case, the officers assert that the most friendly intercourse existed between them; compliments of the most cordial character having been mutually conferred, not only with the English but with the French squadron also, the ball given by the Prince de Joinville having been attended by all officers who could be spared from duty. We are happy to state that notwithstanding the length of time the Boston has been absent and the inclement weather the ship has encountered, on an unhealthy coast, her officers and crew have enjoyed uninterrupted health and spirits.

Mr. S. P. Sturgis, of Boston, late from China, via Mexico, (who came from Vera Cruz in H. M. ship Cornwallis, bearer of despatches from the Mexican Government to that of the United States,) together with Mr. Fitzwilliam Worcester, also of Boston, came passengers in the Boston from the Havana.

The Ontario returned from the Navy Yard to anchorage off the city on Monday.—*Gazette*.

A letter from Key West, under date of the 12th ult., says: Lieut. McLaughlin, of the U. S. schr. Wave, with the cutter Campbell and a transport, has

gone to Cape Florida to make a land expedition against the Indians. He is a very active and persevering officer, but has been delayed in his operations by sickness this winter.

LAST OF THE CHEROKEES.—On Saturday last 228 emigrating Cherokees arrived at this place in the steamer Victoria, under the charge of Captain Drew, on their way west. Most of them are those who were unable to go by land; and nine deaths have occurred since the commencement of the journey; but in general they look well and enjoy good health. In the company is the celebrated Chief, John Ross, who buried his wife in this city on Sunday.—*Little Rock Advocate*, Feb. 4.

It is most deplorable to perceive the many quarrels which occur between the officers both in the naval and military service of the United States. Such altercations not only lessen the dignity of a profession, which more than any other requires concord and an observance of the proprieties of life, but they also impair its public utility. It is very rarely that these disputes deform the English or French service. They have multiplied of late in the American navy and army to a discreditable, if not an alarming degree. Some remedy must be found for this degeneracy, or the service will become a theatre of wrangling and vituperation, instead of a school wherein not only honorable emulation should prevail, but in which the temper and manners should be disciplined.—*Charleston, S. C., Patriot*.

Letters from the U. S. frigate Columbia and sloop of war John Adams, written at Bombay, up to the 10th of November last, have reached this city; at that time the crews were well. Commodore Read and several of the officers had dined with the Governor, there being present a large and brilliant party of ladies and gentlemen. Sir John Kean, who is in command of the troops about to go against the Persians, and who was one of the British Generals at New Orleans, had extended his hospitality to the squadron. Commo. Read had invited the Governor, the General, and many other distinguished officers to dine on board the Columbia. We take pleasure in mentioning this interchange of civilities among public men in the distant ports, as the bond of harmony and good feeling between foreign nations are thus preserved and strengthened.—*National Gazette*.

There are now 18,000 English regulars in North America, 3,000 of whom are in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. The militia of New Brunswick compose several regiments, but their organization is very defective, and they would find it difficult to raise 3,000 men. Sir John Harvey says he can bring 8,000 men into the field; in that case he must withdraw some of the troops from Canada.—*Boston Courier*, Feb. 26.

#### MAJOR W. W. LEAR, U. S. ARMY.

From the *Baton Rouge, La., Gazette*, Feb. 2.

MR. EDITOR: The undersigned, as an act of justice and also as a tribute of their regard and respect for Major W. W. LEAR, request you to insert the following communication in your paper.

#### MEMBERS OF THE BAR.

J. M. Brunot, J. J. Burk, Morris Morgan, Daniel D. Avery, J. M. Elam, Augustus Devall, Joseph W. Fowler, J. Patterson, A. Adams.

Ch. Tessier, John Buhler, P. A. Walker, Jno. Davenport, John Reid, M. Sloan, I. Languier, A. Duplantier, R. Duer, C. R. French, A. H. Legendre, James Mansker, B. T. Beauregard, L. Bonnetaze, J. E. Layet, James Cooper, James M. Wikoff, Andrew Kleinpeter, J. S. Willis, A. Matta, E. Slaughter, D. Searles, N. K. Knox, Wm. S. Pike, J. D. Stuart, H. V. Babin, C. A. Chopin, Ch. R. Tessier,



J. L. Reynolds, L. C. Morris, O. Dewey, A. Montan, John Huguet, Y. Bulnez, G. Carmena, H. B. Favrot, C. W. Combs, L. H. Trudeau, Ths. Cauty, A. Waddill, A. D. Alexander, A. Steers, M. Moreno, Jh. Monget, A. Monget, Alf. Duplantier, Wm. Gil, J. Jay Langdon.

On Saturday morning the 19th January, a rumor was in circulation, that Major W. W. LEAR, had been presented to the Grand Jury of this parish, by an individual who stated that he had been accessory to the mutilation of Lee.

The moment he heard that he was implicated in this charge, Major Lear came voluntarily into court, and represented by one of his friends at the bar, R. N. Ogden, Esq., that he had heard with astonishment and mortification that he was included in the indictment against "Fitzpatrick, *et alius*," for this crime, and that he had been on the point of leaving this post to join his regiment, employed in active service, when the mortifying rumor reached his ear. He then exhibited to the court the following order from the Adjutant General of the United States, commanding him to do so, and stated that he could not consent to leave until this stain was removed; and that he surrendered himself and desired a speedy trial.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,  
Washington, January 3, 1839.

SIR: On the receipt of this letter, you will please to repair to New Orleans and receive from Captain Allen, the Recruiting Officer for the 4th Infantry, all his disposable Recruits, and conduct them, together with those you have enlisted at Baton Rouge, to the Head Quarters of your Regiment. The public interest will not justify any delay in the execution of this order.

I am, sir, very respectfully,

Your obed't serv't.

R. JONES, *Adj't. Gen.*

B't Major W. W. LEAR, *4th Infantry,*  
*Baton Rouge, La.*

The late Report, dated Dec. 20, shows 43 recruits disposable.

The Court admitted him to bail in \$1,000, with one or more good sureties in the like sum. Numerous friends in a moment volunteered, and the security was at once furnished.

Several gentlemen of the bar also volunteered their services, satisfied of his innocence.

On Wednesday evening, 30th ult., the trial commenced, and was concluded on Thursday evening, the 31st, at 3 o'clock.

A number of witnesses were introduced on the part of the State, all of whom, without exception, acquitted Major Lear of the slightest participation in the act, or countenance of it; and many of whom who had known him for years, testified to the kindness, generosity, and humanity of his disposition, and that the act of which he was accused was utterly inconsistent with the whole tenor of his conduct and with his well known character.

When the evidence was closed on the part of the State, the District Attorney, A. HARALSON, Esq., rose, and stated to the Court and Jury, that he had introduced every witness of whom he had any knowledge; that he had deemed it his duty to examine them thoroughly, and had done so; that he was convinced that the prosecution had entirely failed, and as the only reparation he could make to the wounded feelings of Major Lear, who appeared to have been accused unjustly, he offered to enter a *nolle prosequi*.

R. N. Ogden, Esq., one of the Counsels for the accused, then rose and replied that his client received the proposition of the District Attorney with the feelings of gratification and thankfulness it was calculated to inspire, and acknowledged it to be all that the District Attorney could do to repair the injury done to Major Lear; but that he had declined accepting it—that the stigma on his name stamped upon the records of the court, could only be removed by

a full and complete acquittal by a jury of his peers—that however sensible of the frank and honorable course of the District Attorney, he could not consent to receive that as an act of grace, to which he was entitled as a matter of right, and that although the accused had abundance of testimony to disprove the charge, and to show that no one more strongly than himself expressed his sense of horror at the act, yet he would leave it to the Jury without further proof.

He then made a brief, but glowing and affecting appeal to them, in which he depicted the mortifying emotions that must be awakened in the bosom of a high-minded and gallant officer, conscious of his innocence, when accused of an unworthy action. He alluded in eloquent terms to the Major's long residence here, to the friendship and esteem that he had gained by his irreproachable and honorable conduct; and then spoke of the order he had received to go to the battle-ground, and there, perhaps, to wrap the banner round his breast and fall in his country's cause. "But," said he, "when the last life drop is flowing from his heart, his thoughts will wander to Baton Rouge, on whose banks repose the ashes of his babes." In this most happy effort, the eloquent gentleman urged that it was due to Major Lear that the Jury should render their verdict without leaving the box.

The court house was crowded almost to suffocation, and when Judge Ogden wound up his peroration there were few hearts unmoved, and but few dry eyes.

The Hon. G. T. Morgan, presiding, stated that it gave him great pleasure to express his unreserved and unqualified concurrence in the opinion of the District Attorney, that the prosecution had entirely failed—that he approved his course in offering to enter a *nolle prosequi*—but equally approved the course of the counsel of the accused in declining any other discharge from the dishonoring imputations in the indictment than one of equal dignity to the charge itself—and that he concurred also with the counsel in saying that if the jury were convinced that the accused was innocent it was due to him as an honorable man and a gallant soldier, to render their verdict without leaving their box—whereupon he was acquitted by the instant decision of the jury, and their verdict recorded without their leaving the box.

#### NORTH EASTERN BOUNDARY.

Gen. SCOTT, accompanied by Major RIPLEY, and Captains ANDERSON and KEYES, reached Boston on Saturday morning, on his way to the north-eastern frontier. We learn from the Boston Evening Gazette that Gen. S. was introduced to Gov. EVERETT in the Council Chamber; who addressed him substantially as follows:

GENERAL: I take great pleasure in presenting you to the members of the Executive of Massachusetts. I need not say that you are already well known to them by reputation. They are familiar with your fame, as it is recorded on some of the arduous and honorable fields of the country's struggles. We rejoice in meeting you on this occasion, charged as you are with a most momentous mission, by the President of the United States. We are sure you are entrusted with a duty most grateful to your feelings; that of averting an appeal to arms. We place unlimited reliance on your spirit, energy and discretion. Should you unhappily fail in your efforts, under the instructions of the President, to restore harmony, we know that you go equally prepared for a still more responsible duty. Should that event unhappily occur, I beg you to depend on the firm support of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The answer of the General was happy and appropriate; he concluded by saying that the Executive of the United States had full reliance upon the pa-

triotism and public spirit of Massachusetts, in any emergency which might arise.

**FROM THE MAINE BORDER.**—A letter to the editor of the Boston Atlas, dated Augusta, Me., Feb. 28, says:

The last of the troops drafted from this division who have been called into active service, left here this morning. They are to proceed forthwith to the disputed territory.

A letter was received in this town last evening, dated at Houlton, the 26th instant, which says, that five companies of British troops had gone up the St. Johns. A part of the militia of this province had been called into the service of her Majesty. Some of them were stationed at Woodstock. A gentleman who left Houlton on Monday last, represents that the proceedings in our Legislature and the letter of Gov. Fairfield to Sir John Harvey, had created great excitement in the province. A part of Gen. Hodsdon's detachment reached Houlton on Tuesday.

Orders were issued yesterday, calling out a thousand more of our militia into the service of the State.

**OUR NAVAL OFFICERS.**—The Transcript of Friday evening contains a letter from a correspondent on board the U. S. ship of war Cyane, dated Messina. The following paragraph relates to a practice, which, if it really exists to the extent described, is highly dishonorable to the service:

"I regret to find that our ships, on leaving these ports lately, have neglected to pay many bills (not Government bills,) that it would have been more to their credit to have discharged. Towards the kind and simple hearted Maltese they appear to have practised the advice given in the 2d verse of the 11th chapter of Exodus, only confining themselves to the gold and silver currency, rather than to 'jewels of silver and jewels of gold.' This abominable practice of ships leaving foreign ports, where they have been received with courtesy and kindness, deeply in debt, does but little for our credit and less for our honor, and says nothing for our justice. Captain P. is deeply mortified by the reports we have heard, and is determined that this ship shall escape such imputations. The sin is not confined to any particular class in the ship, but includes, if reports be true, some of all, from the tarpaulin to the epaulette."

We are unwilling to give credit to the above representation. Indeed, it would require pretty strong proof to convince us that American naval officers, whom, as a class, we have always been induced to regard not only as brave, but as honorable, high-minded men, would be guilty of conduct which must cause them to be looked upon abroad in the light of swindlers and blackguards. If such is the case, the navy has indeed fallen—and the work of resuscitation will surpass in difficulty the very worst foreboding of the Head of the Navy Department. This subject should be inquired into.—*Boston Mercantile Journal.*

*From the Philadelphia Exchange Books.*

**LATEST FROM MONTE VIDEO AND BUENOS AYRES.**—By the arrival of the barque Madonna, Captain M. Wise, at this port, we have been put in possession of the following extract of a letter from our correspondent, dated MONTEVIDEO, Dec. 23, 1838.

"We have the U. S. vessels Fairfield, Lieut. Com. Mackenzie, at Buenos Ayres, and brig Dolphin, Lieut. Com. Purviance, here; the latter liked to have had a brush with the French a short time since. I refer you to the British Packet for a sketch of that affair. With such commanders as these two vessels have, our commerce need fear no aggressions or impediments; but I am sorry to say I cannot add one item of praise in favor of the superior commander at Rio, where he appears to lie eight months out of the

year, very much at his ease and comfort, instead of being more at the seat of war and trouble. In fact all our senior officers in the navy, are becoming superannuated, and I should like to see more responsibility and charge thrown into the hands of the younger officers. I am sure they would attend to their commands with much more energy and activity than the *old women* generally in chief command.

I hand you herewith a list of the officers attached to the Fairfield and Dolphin as well as a list of American vessels in port—and last, not least, a notice of hymenial consequence which took place on board the Dolphin, on the 12th December.

Married, at Montevideo, on board the U. S. brig Dolphin, 12th December, by the Rev. Mr. Dempster, JOHN G. LOWRY, of Baltimore, to Miss JULIA PALMER.

*From the British Packet, Dec. 15.*

We learn that the U. S. brigantine Dolphin, which sailed from this port on the 3d inst., arrived on the 4th off the mouth of the Salado. The rumors current in this city at the time of her departure, would seem not to have been wholly without foundation, for we understand that immediately upon his arrival, the commander of the Dolphin, Lieut. Purviance, signified to the commander of the French brig Bordelaise, of his being ordered by his superior officer, Lieut. Commander Mackenzie, in command of the Fairfield, to insist upon the free departure from the port of the Salado, of the American schooner Fleet, then lying there, nearly ready to sail, she having entered the port in the absence of any blockading force. The reply was, that the orders of the French Admiral to the commander of the Bordelaise were positive, to capture her should she attempt to depart, and that he should do so. Immediately preparations for action were made on board the Dolphin. The Fleet, however, was not ready to depart until the morning of the 8th, when Lieutenant Purviance went on board the Bordelaise, in consequence of a friendly invitation from the commander. In the course of their interview, it was agreed that the Fleet should go under convoy of the Dolphin, to Montevideo, whither she was bound, and that should the French Admiral consider her as a rightful prize, she should be kept by the Dolphin until the arrival of the American Commodore, who, with the Admiral, should settle this affair between them.

The Dolphin and Fleet proceeded to Montevideo, the latter with an officer and crew from the Dolphin. On their arrival, it is said, the Admiral disclaimed all control over the Fleet, not considering her as having committed a breach of blockade.

The above information is the amount of what we have been able to learn from a gentleman from Montevideo, but there is an apparent glaring inconsistency between the orders said to have been given to the commander of the Bordelaise, and the disclaimer of the Admiral.

Under all circumstances, the result is to be considered happy, inasmuch as by arrangement made between the American and French commanders, the unnecessary effusion of Christian blood has been avoided.

List of officers of the U. S. ship Fairfield, Buenos Ayres, 16th Dec., 1838.

Lieut. Commanding, A. S. MACKENZIE; Lieutenants, E. G. Tilton, O. S. Glisson, S. Larkin, jr., Wm. L. Herndon; Purser, A. J. Watson; Surgeon, B. F. Bache; Master, Joseph Moorehead, Passed Midshipmen, N. G. Bay, R. L. Tilghman; Midshipmen, Ripley, Gantt, and Morris. All well.

List of officers attached to the U. S. brig Dolphin, 20th December, 1838.

Lieut. Commandant, H. Y. PURVIANCE; Lieutenants, Francis Huger, Wm. W. Bleeker; Purser, A. E. Watson; Ass't Surgeon, A. J. Bowie; P. Midshipman, C. E. L. Griffin, act'g Master; Midshipmen, C. R. P. Rodgers, Andrew Wier, I. S. K. You, Henry Rodgers.



## MEXICO.

*From the New Orleans Bulletin of Feb. 26.*

FROM VERA CRUZ.—The U. S. sloop of war *Levant*, Hiram Paulding, Esq., commander, touched at the Balize on Sunday last, on her way from Vera Cruz (whence she sailed 14th instant,) to Pensacola.

The blockade of Vera Cruz was still rigorously enforced.

The following is a list of officers attached to the sloop of war *Levant*:

H. PAULDING, Esq., *Commander*; Sidney Smith Lee, John C. Carter, John A. Russ, Edward M. Yard, *Lieutenants*; Frederick W. Moores, *Master*; Wm. F. Patton, *Surgeon*; Benjamin F. Hart, *Purser*; Elisha Fitch, *Professor of Mathematics*; John J. Abernethy, *Assistant Surgeon*; H. L. Chipman, A. G. Clary, M. B. Woolsey, S. Smith, J. H. Moore, A. J. Drake, C. M. Morris, J. K. Duer, W. W. Hays, B. N. Westcott, F. A. Parker, *Midshipmen*; Thos. H. Stoneall, *Captain's Clerk*; V. R. Hall, *Boatswain*; George D. Dods, *Master's Mate*; Francis M. Cecil, *act'g Carpenter*; Wm. Ryan, *Sailmaker*; John Ottinger, *Purser's Steward*.

*From the Louisianian.*

THE FRENCH SQUADRON.—We have been requested by the French consul at this port, to publish the following official document, for the information of the public.

On board his Majesty's frigate, the *Nereide*, Anton Lizardo, 29th January, 1839.

SIR: I have received the letter which you did me the honor to address to me, of yesterday's date. I thank you for the notice you have given me of your approaching departure for Pensacola, and I avail myself of the opportunity to send my despatches for the French Consul at New Orleans, which I commend to your kind attention.

In answer to your questions relative to the Mexican ports which may be temporarily exempted from blockade, I have the honor to confirm what I communicated to you in conversation, to wit:—that the authorities of the State of Tamaulipas, having refrained from promulgating the law of expulsion issued against my countrymen by the Government of Mexico; the French residents in that State having, on the contrary, up to this time, been treated with justice and protection by the magistrates, and with kindness by the citizens; and finally, the French brig *Fanny*, detained in the river Panuco, having been released, I have given orders to my cruisers to leave the entrance into Tampico free.

I am disposed to do as much for all the ports of the Mexican States, that may adopt the same principles with the State of Tamaulipas, and preserve the same conduct.

The blockade is maintained with regard to the other ports.

Accept, sir, the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

The rear admiral commanding the naval forces of France in the Gulf of Mexico.

CHARLES BAUDIN.

To the commander of the U. S. sloop of war *Levant*, at Sacrificios.

PRIVATEERS.—The French Consul has communicated to us the following extract from the instructions given to Admiral Baudin by his Government—they are dated 10th Dec. last.

"All privateers under the Mexican flag, which are not furnished with regular letters of marque, and do not appear to have really sailed from a Mexican port, with a crew consisting of at least two-thirds Mexicans, shall be considered as pirates, and as such shall be treated with all the rigor of the laws of war."

The above was communicated to the American Government, who approved of it, as adapted to the protection of commerce in general.—*Ibid.*

## ENGLISH AND FRENCH FLEETS AT VERA CRUZ.

—By an arrival at New Orleans from Vera Cruz, of an earlier date than that named above, the following information was received by the editor of the *Louisianian*:

It appears that the arrival of the English fleet had excited murmurs among the French seamen, and in order to prevent the mischiefs which they were calculated to produce, Admiral Baudin addressed the English Admiral a letter, in which, with perfect propriety of expression, yet with sufficient firmness, the latter was given to understand that in the present state of the dispute between France and Mexico, the unexpected arrival of so considerable a British armament at Sacrificios, could only occasion dissatisfaction to the French squadron, and that it was very necessary the English fleet should retire, in order to avert the sinister impressions which its present attitude would otherwise create in the minds of the French as well as of the Mexicans.

The result of the letter was an interview between the two admirals, in which it was agreed that the two English seventy-fours and three frigates should immediately withdraw. These five ships actually set sail for Havana, and it was stipulated that the rest of the English squadron should remain at Vera Cruz.

The strictest intimacy existed between the two admirals, and there was no reason to suppose that the English had the slightest intention to impede the operations of France against Mexico.

## MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

1st Dragoons.—Lieut. Col. Mason, at the expiration of his leave of absence, to report for duty with the squadron of his regiment at Fort Gibson; and Major Wharton to repair to the Head Quarters at Fort Leavenworth, when his services as member of the Court of Inquiry, now in session at St. Louis, shall no longer be required.

3d Artillery.—Capt. L'Engle's resignation accepted, to take effect 30th Nov., 1838.

4th Artillery.—This regiment has been ordered from Florida to Fort Columbus, New York harbor, and will be relieved from duty in the former territory when it can be done without injury to the service there.

1st Infantry.—Lieut. A. H. Stuart's resignation has been accepted, to take effect 1st March.

4th Infantry.—This regiment reached its new post (Fort Gibson) on the 6th February, and relieved the 7th, ordered to Florida.

6th Infantry.—Lieut. W. S. Ketchum, Adjutant of the regiment, received the appointment of Ass't Quartermaster, with the rank of Captain—to take rank from 23th February, *vice* L'Engle, resigned.

7th Infantry.—Capt. Bonneville's company has entered Florida, and the remaining companies are to follow.

The following has been furnished by a correspondent:

2d Dragoons, commanded by Major Fauntleroy, Head Quarters, Fort Gilleland, Newnansville; A and D troops, 1st squadron, under command of Bvt. Major Ashby, to scour the country east of the St. John's and along the Indian river, as far south as Jupiter; B company, Capt. Fulton, left on the 21st February for Fort Deynaud, to join Col. Davenport; C (L. J. Beall's) left Fort Butler for Trader's Hill on the 17th; E company is divided into three detachments in and about Fort Harlee; F, in the field with Lt. Col. Fanning; G, divided between Forts King and Micanopy; H, with General Taylor, accompanying him in his several tours through the country; I, in three detachments in and about Newnansville; K, at Fort Butler, Volusia.

3d Artillery, under command of Major Churchill, Head Quarters, with A company, Miami river, south of Key Biscayne; B, (J. R. Vinton's) Fort Dallas, Key Biscayne; F and I, under command of Bvt. Major Childs, Fort Pierce, Indian river; K, (Davidson's,) Fort Lauderdale, New river; E, D, G, and H, under Colonel Davenport, in the Western District.

4th Artillery, Head Quarters, with K company, at Fort Shannon, Pilatka, under Lt. Col. Fanning; A and E, under Capt. Morris, building a temporary defence between

Forts King and Micanopy; B, (Washington's,) St. Augustine; C, (Galt's) Micanopy; D, (Ross's) Fort Mellon; F, (Scott's,) Fort Heileman; G, (Munroe's,) Fort King; H, (Brown's,) Smyrna; I, (Hunt's,) Fort Gatlin. Detachments from C and G, with Lieuts. Bainbridge and Thomas, compose the garrison at Fort Mackay, between Forts King and Brooks, on the Ocklawaha.

**2d Infantry.**—B, (Smith's,) Fort Brooks; I, (Russell's,) with Major Churchill, on the Miami.

These, with four companies of mounted militia, compose the Eastern District, Army of the South, under command of Colonel Twiggs.

Fears are entertained for the steamboats Gaston and Santee, which left Fort Heileman, the former on the 23d, with companies F and I, 3d artillery, under command of Bvt. Major Childs, for Fort Pierce, the latter on the 26th January, with companies B and K, same regiment, for Forts Dallas and Lauderdale; up to the 22d February no intelligence has been received of these boats.

One of the warriors lately taken by Capt. Winder, 2d dragoons, has volunteered his services as a guide to the camp of Coa-coo-chee, and had joined Major Ashby previous to his squadron's leaving for the south.

## NAVY.

### ORDERS.

Feb. 27—Ass't. Surgeon R. B. Banister, to take passage in ship Warren, for duty in ship Ontario.

Mid. A. Murray, Receiving ship, New York.

March 4—Lt. R. A. Jones, detached from fr. Constitution.

### APPOINTMENT.

Feb. 27—Joshua N. Barnes, acting Carpenter.

### RESIGNATION.

March 1—Samuel Allen, Gunner.

HEAD QUARTERS OF THE MARINE CORPS,  
ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,  
Washington, Feb. 26, 1839.

### ORDERS:

As a mark of respect to the memory of Capt. JAMES McCawley, late of the Corps of Marines, who died at Philadelphia, Penn., on the 22d inst., the officers of the corps are directed to wear crape on the left arm and sword hilt, for one month from the receipt of this order. By order of Col. A. HENDERSON,

Com'dt of the Corps:  
P. G. HOWLE,  
Adj't. and Inspector.

### U. S. VESSELS REPORTED.

WEST INDIA SQUADRON—Ship Natchez, Commander Page, from St. Barts, arrived at St. Thomas, and sailed, Feb. 11th, for Guayama, (P. R.) officers and crew all well.

Ship Levant, Commander Paulding, sailed from Vera Cruz, Feb. 14; touched at the Balize on the 24th, on her way to Pensacola.

THE EXPLORING EXPEDITION.—We learn by the barque Leopold, arrived at this port last night, that the United States South Sea Exploring Expedition sailed from Rio Janeiro on the 6th January for the Pacific. The officers and men were in good health, and sanguine in their enterprise. The U. S. frigate Independence, Com. Nicolson, was lying in the port of Rio Janeiro.—*New Orleans Bee*, Feb. 25.

## MARRIAGES.

At Washington, on the 28th ultimo, Lieut. WM. D. PORTER, U. S. Navy, to Miss ELIZABETH, daughter of the late GEORGE BEALE, Esq., formerly of Virginia.

In Baltimore, on the 5th inst., FRANKLIN SMITH, of Mississippi, to ANN JOSEPHA, daughter of the late Commodore R. T. SPENCE, of the U. S. Navy.

## DEATHS.

In New York, on the 25th ultimo, after a protracted and painful illness, Captain HENRY SHELL, formerly of the U. S. Army, in the 56th year of his age.

On Thursday evening, 28th ultimo, at Fort Columbus, Governor's island, N. York harbor, LYDIA BIDDLE, only daughter of Col. WM. GATES, U. S. Army, aged 18 years.

In Richmond, on the 22d ult., after a painful illness, Major SAMUEL J. WINSTON, in the 74th year of his age. He was a soldier of the Revolution; for many years the Brigade-Major of this brigade, and at the time of his death the Sergeant at Arms to the House of Delegates. All who knew him will acknowledge that they never knew a more delightful companion, a more generous spirit, a man with a warmer heart, a braver and a nobler soul.

FUNERAL OF MAJOR WINSTON.—The chief happiness of this old soldier's life was his association with his military companions. And it was his dying request that he should be buried with military honors. The execution of this was attended with much inconvenience and fatigue to the troops, as the remains of the old veteran were interred at his place in Hanover; yet the manner and the feeling with which they accomplished his wish, cannot fail to be a source of sincere gratification to all his relatives and friends.

We understand that the scene at the grave was most imposing. The knapsack the Major had worn at Yorktown, and his canteen, were exhibited previous to consigning them to the grave with him, according to his request. The knapsack was of coarse canvass, and the canteen of wood, indicative of the toils and privations our fathers of the Revolution endured for Liberty's sake.

The procession in the city was long, and for the sake of the memories of the Revolutionary patriots, we were proud to see it. It was not only respect for the deceased patriot which drew so many after the hearse which bore his remains, but to express, through him, gratitude and honor to the heroes of the Revolution.

A few days before his death, he observed, that for the last twenty-eight years he had never failed, upon the twenty-second of February and fourth of July, to have on his "regimentals" in honor of those days. He expressed a wish to be able to appear in the dress of the soldier on the 22d. In the words of Mr. Robertson, in his notice of Major W's death in the House of Delegates, this wish indicated that the pulses of '76 still beat in the old soldier's breast, with the same patriotic ardor that hurried him, when a boy of 17, to the plains of Yorktown. On the 22d he was in an almost insensible state, but the firing of the morning guns filled him with evident and strong emotion. The day was bright and beautiful, but his companions passed on to their usual festivities without him. And it was not more than an hour or two after the evening guns had told the day was gone, that his spirit bade them all farewell forever.—*Richmond Compiler*.

### NOTICE.

PROPOSALS will be received at the office of the Commissary General of Purchases in Philadelphia, for supplying the following articles of DRAGOON EQUIPMENTS, viz:

- 400 Saddles, complete.
- 200 Bridles, with Martingales.
- 200 Saddle Bags.
- 200 pairs Spurs.
- 200 Halters, Head Stalls and Straps.

On the patterns exhibited at this office, the contracts will be founded and inspections made, and no article will be received that is inferior in material or workmanship, or that does not correspond in every respect with the pattern on which the contract is founded. The articles are to be delivered at the United States Arsenal, near Philadelphia, for inspection, in equal monthly proportions, and the contracts to be fulfilled on or before the first day of August, 1839, or earlier, if required for the service.

The proposals must be in writing, sealed and endorsed "Proposals" and must reach the office of the Commissary General of Purchases, on or before the 22d March, 1839. Security will be required for the fulfilment of contracts.

C. IRVINE,

Commissary General of Purchases.

COMMISSARY GENERAL'S OFFICE, } Feb. 28—td  
Philadelphia, Feb. 23d, 1839.

FOR RENT.—The office at present occupied by the subscriber, on 17th street, adjoining the Pension office. Possession given immediately.

Feb. 7—tf

B. HOMANS.